

Message Text

SECRET

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70-62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W
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R 081440 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4843

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T NEW DELHI 6739

EXDIS

FOR SISCO FROM MOYNIHAN

EGMO. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ETRN IN PK BG

SUBJ: GOP- GOI COMMUNICATIONS ON SOUTH ASIAN PROBLEMS

REF: STATE 110135, NEW DELHI 6665

1. WE HAVE BEEN WILING AWAY AN OTHERWISE UNEVENTFUL MORNING HERE IN NEW DELHI WONDERING JUST WHAT YOUR LAST CABLE MEANS. I HAVE BEEN MAKING HARVARD PROFESSOR TYPE REFERENCES TO I. A. RICHARD (SEE " SEVEN TYPES OF AMBIGUITY"). A GOOD FRIEND AND ADMIRER OF OUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY RESPONDED " I DON' T THINK THE CABLE IS AMBIGUOUS SO MUCH AS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR." OBVIOUSLY HE WON THAT EXCHANGE, BUT WE ARE STILL IN THE DUSK ABOUT YOUR MEANING.

2. THE QUESTION IS AS FOLLOWS. WHAT ARE OUR DIRECTIONS FROM WASHINGTON CONCERNING THE RECEIPT OF VARIOUS MORE OR LESS CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS BEING EXCHANGED AMONG THE PARTIES TO THE SIMLA PROCESS?

3. THIS EMBASSY' S ORIGINAL POLICY WAS NOT TO ACCEPT THEM EVEN WHEN OFFERED. YOU WILL RECALL THT WE DECLINED THE FIRST OFFER OF THE PAK AIDES MEMOIRE. OUR FEELING WAS THAT THE INDIANS WOULD ONLY OFFER US SUCH DOCUMENTS IN ORDER
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TO DISTORT OUR VIEW OF WHAT WAS
GOING ON, OR GENERALLY TO
USE US FOR THEIR PURPOSES. SUBSEQUENTLY, IN AN OBVIOUS
EXCEPTION TO THIS RULE, WE WENT IN AND GOT COPIES OF THOSE
PARTICULAR DOCUMENTS FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT HALF THE OFFICIALS
OF THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT HAD DENIED THEY EXISTED, AND
WE FIGURED IT ISN'T ANY BETTER TO BE LIED TO BY PAKISTANIS
THAN TO BE GULLED BY INDIANS.

4. I BELIEVE WE SETTLED THE FACT THAT THE PAKISTANIS WERE
LYING.

5. NOW WHAT? YOU SAY: " I WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE ALL AGREE,
HERE, DELHI, ISLAMABAD AND IN DACCA, THAT WE LEAVE ENTIRELY
TO THE INITIATIVE OF THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED WHATEVER
DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THIS PROCESS THAT THEY WANT TO SHOW
TO US." HOWEVER, THIS A HARD POLICY TO INTERPRET. DO YOU
MEAN THAT IF WE ARE ASKED, " WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THIS
DOCUMENT?" WE ANSWER " YES, WE WOULD", OR MORE COYLY,
ONLY IF YOU WOULD LIKE US TO SEE IT." WE BEGIN TO WORK
INTO THE SHADOWY AREA OF INVOLVEMENT IN THE NEGOTIATING
PROCESS. AS I SAID IN MY EARLIER MESSAGE, NOBODY IS GOING
TO SHOW US ANYTHING WHICH DOESN'T SERVE THEIR INTEREST.
REGARDLESS OF HOW DOCUMENTS COME INTO OUR HANDS, AND
WHATEVER INFORMATION WE ARE GIVEN ORALLY BY THE INDIANS
AND THE PAKISTANIS, I FEEL QUITE STRONGLY NOW THAT
WE SHOULD LIMIT OURSELVES TO PASSING IT ON TO YOU BUT NOT,
AND I REPEAT NOT, BECOME INVOLVED IN MUTUAL INTERPRETATION
OR PASSING ON OF TIDBITS FROM THE INDIANS TO THE PAKISTANIS
OR VICE VERSA. I ACKNOWLEDGE WE'VE DONE THIS SOMETIMES

WHEN AN ISLAMABAD CABLE INCLUDED SOME INTERPRETATION OR
ATTITUDE FROM A PAKISTANI OFFICIAL WHICH, IT SEEMED TO US,
WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO BETTER UNDERSTANDING BY THE INDIANS
OF THE PAKISTAN POSITION. THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE. AT
LEAST I CAN'T SEE ANY PROFIT THAT'S COME FROM IT AND I CAN
SEE CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION GATHERING. IN ANY EVENT, WE
WILL NOW RELY ON YOU TO LET US KNOW WHEN YOU THINK SOME
PARTICULAR PIECE OF INFORMATION SHOULD BE PASSED TO THE
INDIANS. I HOPE ISLAMABAD WILL DO THE SAME.

MOYNIHAN

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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